

Tokyo's Cocoon Tower selected as 2008 Skyscraper of the Year

Frankfurt, 19 January 2009: With an impressive score of 77 voting points, the world's most renowned architectural prize for high-rise buildings, the Emporis Skyscraper Award, goes to Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower in Tokyo. The building in Tokyo's Shinjuku district known as "Cocoon Tower" has been selected out of 384 eligible buildings worldwide over 100 meters tall which were completed in 2008.

The jury of 20 Emporis senior editors from around the globe praised the building's "expressive" design and the "remarkable environment" Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower provides its users, who include faculty and 10,000 students at three vocational schools. Designed by Tange Associates, the 203.65-meter skyscraper is the second-tallest educational building in the world (surpassed only by Moscow State University), and the tallest constructed since 1953. The Silver Award goes to Boutique Monaco in Seoul, a 27-story tower also known as "Missing Matrix" because of the garden-filled voids carved out of its mass. The Bronze Award was given to Shanghai World Financial Center, whose height of 492 meters makes it the second-tallest completed building in the world.

About the Award

The Emporis Skyscraper Award is the only prize for high-rise architecture awarded annually and on a global basis. Nominees and winners are chosen from Emporis' database by Emporis editors, who are building and architecture experts from 67 nations. Essential information on the buildings, as well as images, are available to the public on Emporis.com. The jury, composed of Emporis senior editors, selects the "skyscraper of the year" every December and announces it after the beginning of the new year. The award has been given since 2000 to recognize excellence in both aesthetic and functional

design. Previous winners include Kingdom Centre (Riyadh), 30 St Mary Axe (London), Turning Torso (Malmö), Hearst Tower (New York City), and Het Strijkijzer (The Hague).

Emporis is the world's leading provider of global building-related information, with over 500,000 buildings from 60,000 cities in all countries on its database.

Further information

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